

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DW 06-104**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

On July 31, 2006, Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc. (Hampstead) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a petition for financing approval and for a step adjustment to rates as the result of additions to its plant-in-service. Hampstead is a regulated water utility pursuant to RSA 362:2 and 362:4 and provides water service to approximately 2,700 customers in Atkinson, Hampstead, Nottingham, Danville, Sandown, East Kingston, Kingston, Chester, and Plaistow.

Hampstead requests authority pursuant to RSA 369 to borrow \$267,299 from its parent company, Lewis Builders, Inc. (LBI). According to Hampstead, these funds would be used (1) to conduct a hydrology study at the request of the Department of Environmental Services, (2) to purchase new billing software, and (3) to purchase three new vehicles. LBI has indicated it will loan the funds to Hampstead over a five year term at an interest rate of 2.25 percent over the current prime rate, or 10.5%, payable in sixty equal monthly installments of \$3,483.49.

Hampstead also requests a step adjustment to its rates designed to recover its investment in the assets to be acquired with the proposed financing. According to Hampstead, this would result in additional revenues of \$73,021, an increase of 6.48 percent in the Company's recently approved rates.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to RSA 369 and the terms and conditions of the proposed financing; the need for the capital improvements; and RSA 378 and the rates to be charged following the proposed step adjustment.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on September 12, 2006 at 1:30 p.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.15(c) shall be considered; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, Hampstead Area Water Company, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition and allow Hampstead Area Water Company to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Hampstead Area Water Company shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than August 21, 2006, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before September 12, 2006; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that Hampstead Area Water Company serve a copy of this Order of Notice on the Town Clerk of the each municipality in which it conducts business, by first class U.S. Mail, postmarked no later than August 22, 2006; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Hampstead Area Water Company and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before September 7, 2006, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before September 12, 2006; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12(a)(5), each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at the party's own expense.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this fifteenth day of August, 2006.

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Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.